

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-55 (Cancelled)

56. (currently amended) A method for the proliferation and delivery of anaerobic cells, tissue cultures and/or microorganisms including the steps of:
- (a) disposing an inoculum in an anaerobic inoculation chamber;
 - (b) disposing a growth medium for the inoculum in an anaerobic proliferation chamber, said inoculation chamber being exterior of said proliferation chamber, said proliferation chamber being [which is] separated from the inoculation chamber by an openable separating means;
 - (c) storing the inoculum and uninoculated growth medium separated;
 - (d) opening the separating means to inoculate the growth medium;
 - (e) allowing the cells, tissue cultures and/or microorganisms to proliferate under anaerobic conditions in the proliferation chamber to form a proliferated culture; and
 - (f) dispensing the proliferated culture from the proliferation chamber,
- the method being characterised in that the step of opening the separating means takes place without compromising the anaerobiosis of the inside of the chambers, and in that the steps of disposing, storing, inoculating, opening, and proliferation take place under anaerobic and aseptical conditions.

57. (previously presented) A method according to claim 56 wherein the inoculum is provided in a form which is stable and viable beyond the normal life-span of a conventional culture in a closed container.
58. (previously presented) A method according to claim 56 which includes the further step of rendering the separating means and inside of the proliferation chamber sterile prior to the step of disposing the inoculum and growth medium in the respective chambers.
59. (previously presented) A method according to claim 56 which includes the further step of controlling and adjusting proliferation conditions of the inoculated growth medium.
60. (currently amended) A unitary disposable and portable anaerobic cell, tissue and/or microorganism proliferation and delivery apparatus comprising at least one anaerobic proliferation chamber for containing a growth medium; at least one anaerobic inoculation chamber for containing an inoculum, said inoculation chamber being exterior of said proliferation chamber; and means for separating the proliferation and inoculation chambers, the separating means being openable to connect the insides of the chambers to each other, without compromising the anaerobiosis of the inside of the chambers, to inoculate the growth medium with the inoculum, to allow proliferation of the said cell, tissue and/or microorganism under anaerobic and aseptic

conditions, wherein the inoculum is provided in a form which is stable and viable beyond the normal life-span of a conventional culture in a closed container.

61. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60, wherein the arrangement is such that the inoculum and growth medium are stored and transported separated from each other in the apparatus, until such time as a proliferated culture is to be applied, whereupon the growth medium is inoculated and proliferation allowed to take place, whereafter the proliferated culture is dispensed from the apparatus.
62. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the separating means and inside of the proliferation chamber are rendered sterile prior to inoculation.
63. (cancelled)
64. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 which is totally enclosed and hermetically sealed.
65. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the chambers are connected to each other via a passage.
66. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 65 wherein the separating means is in the form of a septum.

67. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the opening means is in the form of a spike for piercing the septum.
68. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 67 wherein the inoculation chamber is defined by a vial-type container having a mouth which is connected to one end of the passage.
69. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 68 wherein the said septum covers the said mouth.
70. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 68 wherein the spike is mounted in the passage directed at the septum, and wherein the inoculation chamber is connected to the said one end of the passage via advancement means, the arrangement being further such that, in use, the inoculation chamber is advanced inwardly towards the spike, until the spike pierces the septum.
71. (currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 68 wherein the vial-type container is flexible, the arrangement being such that, in use, the inoculation chamber is compressed after the septum has been opened to inoculate the growth medium.
72. (currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 66 wherein the apparatus is provided with urging means for urging the inoculum into the

proliferation chamber after the septum has been opened to inoculate the growth medium.

73. (currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 66 wherein there is a pressure differentiation between the two chambers causing the inoculum to flow into the proliferation chamber after the septum has been opened to inoculate the growth medium.
74. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 which is provided with a port for connecting to a dosing or application means.
75. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 74 wherein the arrangement is such that pressure, which builds up in the proliferation chamber during the anaerobic cultivation of the microorganism, urges the proliferated culture through the said port.
76. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the proliferation chamber is defined or provided by a flexible infusion bag type container.
77. (previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the proliferation chamber is in the form of a “carboy”- type container.
78. (currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 60 which includes additional proliferation or inoculation chambers connectable to the other chambers.